

## Words blending and synthesis

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Words blending and synthesis are produced by combining parts of other words, as in English *smog* from *smoke* and *fog*. It is found in Arabic as well as many other world languages, and it reflects the natural human tendency of making the language phrases shorter.

Due to the fact that traditional methods dominate the field of teaching Arabic, etymology, including this language feature, is rarely explained in the books of Arabic language and linguistics. The blended or synthetic words in Arabic, however, have developed through out several centuries.

Below is an illustration of very common words. As usual, the spoken part of this system is separated from the written part, but the spoken words are given detailed comparison in order to cover most Arabic dialects. Despite the fact, and as shown, that they all belong to the same origin.

### □ The written Arabic examples - words with their original phrases:

Original phrase	Word	Original phrase	Word
إني معك	yes man, إمعة toady, bootlicker	ماهو - ماهي	substance ماهية
قال: بسم الله (الرحمن الرحيم)	to say: with بسملة the name of god (religious)	هو	identity هوية
لاشيء	disappear, تلاشى vanish	قال: أعوذ بالله (من الشيطان الرجيم)	to say: I turn تعوذ to god (religious )
لا أحد	death لحد	لا أحد	atheist ملحد

### □ The spoken Arabic examples:

- Original phrases and a variety of their blended common words in spoken Arabic dialects:

Notice the same origin of the varied words

		Spoken						
What	ماذا	ش	اش	شو	ايه	اشو	ايش	أي شيء هو*
Why	لماذا		لشو	لأشو	ليه	لأيش	لأيش	لأي شيء
Now	الآن					دلوقت	هلق	هذا الوقت
Now	الآن					هسا	هالسع	هذه الساعة
Until now	حتى الآن					لسا	لساع	لهذه الساعة

\* The Bedouin-Gulf dialect words شنو، شنهو، ويش also belong to this group.

- Separate analysis of the blended words illustrates the detailed relation and interrelation with the original phrase that they came from, and with each other:
1. Analysis of the phrase:

أي شيء هو

أ	ي	ش	ي	ء	ه	و		
أ	ي	ش					أيش	
أ		ش				و	اشو	
أ			ي		ه		إيه	
		ش				و	شو	
أ		ش					اش	
		ش					ش	

2. Analysis of the phrase:

لأي شيء هو

ل	أ	ي	ش	ي	ء	ه	و	
ل	أ	ي	ش					لأيش
ل		ي	ش					لإيش
ل		ي				ه		ليه
ل	أ		ش				و	لأشو
ل			ش				و	لشو

3. Analysis of the phrase:

هذا الوقت

ه	ذ	ا	ا	ل	و	ق	ت	
ه				ل		ق		هلق
	د			ل	و	ق	ت	دلوقت

4. Analysis of the phrase:

لهذه الساعة

ل	ه	ذ	ه	ا	ل	س	ا	ع	ة	
ل						س	ا	ع		لساع
ل						س	ا			لسا